

England, or Virginia, or of Congress; but in common with all our other natural rights is one of the objects for the protection of which society is formed and municipal laws established. (To James Monroe, 1797. F. VII., 172.)

COUNSEL.—I have placed my happiness on seeing- you good and accomplished; and no distress this world can now bring on me would equal that of disappointing- my hopes. If you love me, then strive to be good under every situation and .0 all living creatures, and to acquire those accomplishments which I have put in your power. (From a letter to his daughter, 1782. F. III., 346.)

COUNSEL.—Time now begins to be precious to you, every day you lose will retard a day your entrance on that public stage whereon you may be able to be useful to yourself, however, the way to repair the loss is to improve the future time. I trust, that with your disposition, even the acquisition of science is a pleasing employment. I can assure you, that the possession of it is, what (next to an honest heart) will above all things render you dear to your friends, and give you fame and promotion in your own country. When your mind shall be well improved with science, nothing will be necessary to place you in the highest point of view but to pursue the interests- of your country, the interests of your friends, and your own interests also, with the purest integrity, the most chaste honor. The defect of these virtues can never be made up by all the other acquirements of body and mind. Make these your first object. Give up money, give up fame, give up science, give the earth and all it contains, rather than do an immoral act. And never suppose, that in any possible situation, or under any circumstances, it is best for you to do a dishonorable thing, however slightly so it may appear to you. Whenever you are to do a thing, though it can never be known but to yourself, ask yourself how you would act were all the world looking at you, and act accordingly. Encourage all your virtuous dispositions, and exercise them whenever the opportunity arises; being assured that they will gain strength by exercise, as a limb of the body does, and that exercise will make them habitual. From the